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The United Woollen Mills Co.

W. A. HERSCH, President

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WEST VIRGINIA HIGH SCHOOL TOURNAMENT

Will Be Held on Wesleyan College Gymnasium Floor
March 16 and 17.

BUCKHANNON, Dec. 30.—Plans for the fourth annual high school tournament, which will be held on the West Virginia Wesleyan College gymnasium floor on Friday and Saturday, March 16 and 17, are going forward steadily and every effort is being put forth by the local management to more firmly establish the tournament as the premier athletic event of West Virginia, not only from the standpoint of strong

teams, but from the standpoint of sportsmanship and the good feeling that it engenders.

This athletic event had its beginning three years ago when Elkins and Wheeling, outstanding contenders for state scholastic honors, met upon the Wesleyan floor and contested the state title. In 1915 fourteen teams were entered, and in 1916 twenty-four teams contested. There are probably twenty per cent more teams in the field this year than there were last. This means more teams at the tournament and more general interest over the state. The management anticipates no less than thirty-five teams contesting in the tournament and preparations are already going forward organizing the student body and the town for the purpose of caring for the teams, coaches, managers and the host of visitors who attend this event each year.

Already many letters have been received from various high schools over the state, stating that they wish to enter the 1917 tournament, and there remains not a single team which entered the tournament last year to say that they will not enter again this year. Letters have been received officially signed from Charleston high and Parkersburg high, each a holder of a "flag" upon the large silver trophy, stating that they will again compete in the annual event. Chester, Summersville, Flemington, Harpers Ferry, Ravenswood and other first class teams which have never appeared previously in this early date that they wish to enter this year. These, coupled with such teams as Fairmont, Clarksburg, Buckhannon, Weston, Bluefield, Elkins, Wellsburg, Magnolia, Fairview and many others not only assure the wholesome development of the tournament but means that added zest is being given to clean fast basketball over the state.

The tournament will again be conducted under the management of Wesleyan College. Harry A. Stansbury, who has so capably promoted the big event for the last three years, has resigned and R. W. Shumaker, member of the 1917 class and Wesleyan athlete, has been designated as his successor in the management of this event. Wesleyan students will be given a better opportunity this year to assist in entertaining and catering to the comfort of teams and guests owing to the fact that there will be no term examinations immediately following the first term semester having for the first time been held instead of terms.

Additional seating capacity is being provided. The finals on Saturday night last year were attended by the greatest crowd that ever watched an indoor athletic event in West Virginia. This host of fans were seated with quite a degree of comfort but in order to accommodate a still greater crowd this year additional seating arrangements are being made. This is made possible by utilizing the space made available in moving the baskets from the wall to conform to the new regulations of the game. Thus, while eleven weeks intervene before the referee will toss the ball for the first game of the event, preparations are well under way and enthusiasm runs high. Hence is assured the greatest event of its kind in West Virginia.

BRITTON WAS UNRUFFLED WHEN WIFE ASKED WAIVERS ON HIM THE SECOND TIME

Schuyler Britton, deposed husband-president of Mrs. Britton's Cardinal ball club, may have his faults, but he is a philosopher and doesn't annoy his friends with his troubles. Britton was returning home from the minor league meeting at New Orleans, not knowing that his wife had for the second time sued for divorce. He got off the train at the station in St. Louis with a friend and said:

"I'm going to hurry home in a taxi and if you get in 171 drop you off at your hotel."

As the two emerged from the train shed Britton bought a morning paper and saw in glaring headlines the story of the divorce suit. "Well, what do you think of that?" was his remark. "Here I read that waivers have been asked on me again. I guess I won't go home after all, but will just stop at the hotel with you."

"Maybe it's not so bad as it reads," suggested the friend.

"You never can tell in baseball," said Britton. "It may not be. Anyway, I will keep in condition and if the team goes bad next spring they may take me on again."

And then he dropped the subject.

VOTES AGAINST LETTING DOCTOR FOIL THE STORK

New York Medical Body in a Heated Debate on Birth Control.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—By a vote of 210 to 72, at a long and lively session, the Medical Society of the City of New York decided Tuesday against advocating a change in the state law which would permit physicians to advise married patients as to methods of birth control.

The balloting was on the acceptance or rejection of a report made by a committee of nine physicians who have been studying the subject several months.

Six Doctors Disapprove.

The main report, signed by six of the nine members, disapproved of physicians aiding in the limitation of families except in cases where the mother's life or health is endangered. A minority report favoring the instruction of women by physicians was signed by only two.

In the course of debating—for both sides had many followers eager to advance arguments—there were heated words at times.

Dr. Ira S. Wile, one of the ardent supporters of the birth control report, said that what was done secretly might as well be made legal. He added: "This society contains members who perform illegal operations which are far worse than the giving of advice to regulate births—and yet retain their membership!"

Must Rear More Children.

At a meeting of the American Genetic Association, Dr. Robert J. Sprague, of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, declared every married woman capable of bearing children must at an average bring three children to maturity if the population is to be kept up and not increased. Of the graduates of our women's colleges, he said, only one-half ever marry and "the average number of children per graduate is less than one."

Discussing "the constructive aspect of birth control," Dr. Sprague went on to say that "for one great section of the population we need birth control and for the other birth release."

He declared birth control was practiced extensively among the middle classes of our native population in the industrial and "intensely civilized regions of this country."

On the other hand, he said, excessive birth rate, "beyond the ability of parents to support is one of the greatest evils a people faces."

TRAFFIC

Held Up Ten Minutes When Woman's Finger Gets Caught in Shoe.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—Fully 100 vehicles were forced to wait ten minutes at Lenox avenue and 125th street while Walter Brown, traffic policeman, performed an operation with his knife.

He had to cut away a part of the shoe of Mrs. Cecelia Mathieson, 36 years old, of 136 West 130th street, who was literally a prisoner of fashion.

Mrs. Mathieson was crossing the street when the wind blew her skirt about her shoulders and it caught in one of the patent buttons on some new and very fashionable shoes.

As she stooped down to fix it she caught the third finger of her right hand between the inside of the skirt and her stocking on the end of the wire holding the shoe button.

The wire acted like a fish hook and she couldn't release her finger. In that stooping position she screamed for help as an automobile nearly ran her down. Brown held up traffic and tried to release the finger, but could not. Then he cut away the top of the shoe.

Mrs. Mathieson was put in a taxi cab and taken to Harlem hospital, where Dr. Rosen had to perform an operation to get the wire out.

CANDY TO GIRLS WHO GET "STEADIES" TO JOIN ARMY

ROME, Ga., Dec. 30.—Serg. Garrett of the local recruiting station is supplying himself with dollar boxes of candy and skimping on his winter clothing purchases to do it.

Now, what does he expect to do with all this candy? Listen. It is no secret. He is offering a box to any young woman who will get her "steady" to enlist in the army. He does not care, he says, what reason she has for wanting him to enlist—whether because he scorned her leap-year tenderness, whether he doesn't take her to the movies, or whether she is just tired of him.

ROMANCE ENDS WITH TRAGEDY

Mind of Bride-to-Be is De-ranged, and Her Fiance Nurses Broken Heart.

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif., Dec. 30.—The tragic climax of a boy and girl romance that began in Newport, Ky., was revealed through a telegram from the chief of police of that city seeking the whereabouts of Mary J. Chevelier, 28 years old, who traveled to San Francisco to be married to Nicholas Hennessy, a young ironworker employed by the Pacific Coast steel works at South City.

The girl was found at the San Francisco hospital a mental and physical wreck and dying, according to Dr. Leo Flanagan, the attending physician. Hennessy was found at work, broken hearted, according to Policewoman Katherine O'Connor, and the savings with which he planned a home for his bride had gone for hospital and doctor's bills.

Miss Chevelier, the police learned, arrived in San Francisco December 1. She came, according to Hennessy, in charge of the Travelers' Aid Society, having, he says, become suddenly de-ranged about the time Hennessy had the girl taken to St. Mary's hospital, and later, when his savings were gone, to the San Francisco hospital.

The romance that ended in tragedy just as the couple were about to be married came to light through a mis-sent telegram. This telegram was sent to the young woman's brother, Albert Chevelier, of Newport, Ky., by Attorney Frank Haynes, of San Francisco, on behalf of Hennessy.

Chief Elbert telegraphed the San Francisco police that the brother had received a telegram from Haynes advising him Miss Chevelier had died and asking for \$300 expenses.

They explained to the police that the telegram was evidently mis-sent and that the word "dying" was read by the girl's brother as "died." The brother telegraphed to have the body shipped to Newport and, receiving no reply, asked the Newport police to investigate.

OPENING GAME

Of the Central High School League Will Be Played Here Wednesday Night.

The first Central High School League basketball game of the season in this city will be played on the Northview school gymnasium floor Wednesday evening when the fast Jane Lew high school team will clash with the newly organized Coal district high school quint.

Coach Bailey, of the Coal district team, has some excellent material and while his team is new he expects it to put up a good game against the Jane Lew boys and expects a victory in his first game.

This being the first league game of the season a large crowd is expected to attend as all the students of the Northview and Adamston schools are interested in the team. Fred Burka, who was recently selected as one of the regular league officials, will referee the game.

PRODIGY

Is Ohio Youth, Aged 6, Who Excels in Addition and Subtraction.

FINDLAY, O., Dec. 30.—A child wonder of unusual mental power has been discovered in the first grade of the West State street school by Miss Helen Gaskill, the teacher.

He is Master Roy Fork, aged six, son of F. L. Fork, well-driller, residing on Franklin avenue. While bright in all his school work, the youngster is a prodigy in mathematics.

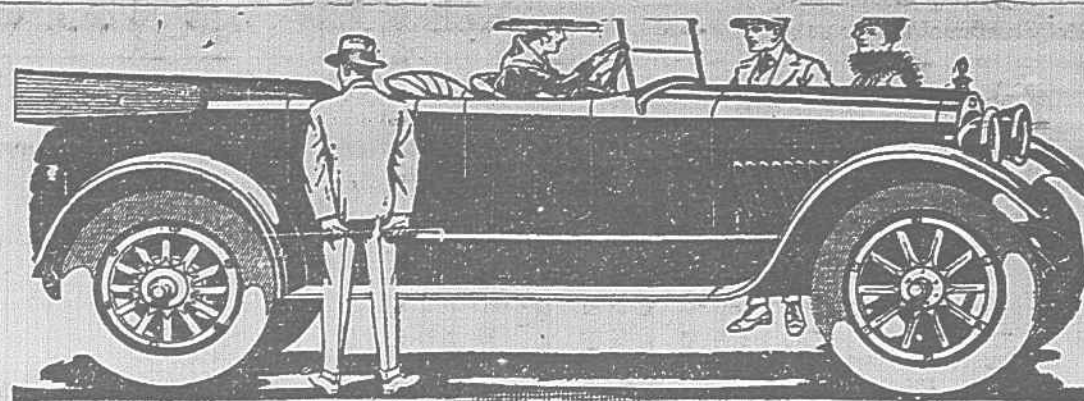
He knows the calendar by heart and although given the most severe questions with regard to days and dates, never makes a mistake. "If you tell me your age, he can tell in a second the year you were born, and if you give him the date of your birth and ask him what day of the week it comes on and he will tell, correctly and without fail."

His ability cannot be attributed to mental telepathy, for in many instances he tells the days and dates in last year's calendar, which, when you look them up, you find are right.

Although not customary to teach children the months and abbreviations of months, Roy had them mastered when he went to kindergarten, and the remarkable feature is that he was never taught.

He is also lightning fast in problems which deal with addition and subtraction of the calendar, and catch questions are easily solved.

Dr. John Quackenbush, of East Anson, N. H., has used the same rowboat on Highland lake for forty-four years.



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DIES STEALING GIFTS FOR WIFE AND CHILDREN

Chicago Man is Fatally Wounded after Beating a Railroad Watchman.

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—It was tough to be broke on Christmas, tough to have to pawn box cars for a little yuletide stuff for the wife and kids; yet one could bear that. But to die of a bullet hole in the knee—No wonder Max Fritschie would not tell his name, but went to his death with a sneer for the coppers who sent him thither with such an inglorious wound.

And so while Max's unshriven soul sought lodgment elsewhere Mrs. Fritschie and the kid wondered why he didn't come home with the gifts he went to fetch.

Beat Railroad Policeman.

It being a Christmas eve, Max and his companion could not well be annoyed by such interior obstacles as special railroad policemen. Hence they administered a drubbing to Policeman Koahl in the yards of the Chicago and Western Indiana Railroad Company. Koahl was taken to a hospital.

It began to look as if Santa Claus would have to be dragged forth over the bodies of beaten policemen, for in their path, Koahl being disposed of, appeared another special policeman, Zorn, by name.

But Zorn had learned there is only one thing quicker than light, and that is a gun, so he stepped behind a box car and blazed away. After a while he poked his head out and, walking a short distance, he came upon Fritschie, wounded in the knee and slowly bleeding to death.

His name.

Zorn called a patrol wagon and Fritschie was taken to the People's hospital. They asked him his name.

"Brown," he said, "no home."

After a while, weakness coming upon him, he gave other names.

"I've been against every kind of death there is," he mumbled, "but here I go and get bumped off with a clip in the knee. I guess the old lady and the kid'll have to wait."

And he died. And as he lay there a couple of grizzled old detective sergeants came in.

"Hello," said they in vast surprise. "Max Fritschie! Done time in Joliet and a fast worker. That'll be a tough Christmas for his wife and kid."

It was.

SHOOTS DUCK AND FINDS HIS LOST POCKETBOOK

SAN MATEO, Dec. 30.—Harry Baldwin, drayman, duck shooting, lost his wallet with \$85.

"There goes my Christmas," said Baldwin to a friend.

Just then a flock of ducks came over, and Baldwin dropped one. No, the duck didn't have the wallet; it fell alongside the place where Baldwin had dropped it.

CONVICTS

Should Be Sent to the Trenches in the Opinion of Many Frenchmen.

PARIS, Dec. 30.—The protection from German shells enjoyed by convicts through their own misdeeds, while the law abiding men of France able to bear arms are making such heavy sacrifices, has raised a discussion as to the propriety of sending to the front of all able bodied men now in prison.

"Jail-bird slackers" is the name given to men sentenced in 1914 or previously to periods of confinement that have carried them over the first two years of the war. A law recently introduced in the chamber of deputies by Pierre Ramell and Andre Hesse contemplates the incorporation of certain categories of these men. The proposition was received with considerable satisfaction until a study of the question developed forcible objections.

A great many people held that it

would be according too much honor to allow convicts to fight at the front alongside the gallant soldiers of the republic. Others held that the results would scarcely justify the experiment, while the number of recruits that could be obtained this way, estimated at the ministry of justice between 3,000 and 4,000, would furnish too small an effort to justify the risk.

It would be necessary to provide an organization absolutely separate and distinct from any other arm of the service to prevent contact between convicts and the soldiers of the regular army.

A great many prisoners have begged for the privilege of a suspension of their sentence to permit them to go to the front and have thus appealed with some force to the sentiment of charitably minded people. There are precedents, however, showing that the men who have gone to the front to clear themselves of stains upon their record have not in every case justified the hope that was entertained.

Holland has begun operating a new line of steamships that will ply between Amsterdam and the west coast of South America.

RUBE CAN FACE DUTCHMEN EOUGH RIGHT HERE IN LITTLE OLD U. S. A.

Up in Canada in these war times the man who isn't in uniform has to wear a badge of some kind indicating why he is not in the army. Without the badge he is likely to be called to account. Pitcher Rube Marquard, of the Brooklyn Dodgers, was in Toronto with his wife, Blossom Seelye, who was doing a vaudeville turn at a theater there. Rube took a walk one bright morning and immediately a recruiting sergeant spotted him.

"Why haven't you signed up?" asked the sergeant sharply. "I have signed," said the Rube somewhat surprised.

"When and where?" queried the recruiter. "Why," said Rube, beginning to understand, "I signed with the Brooklyn club a year ago."

The recruiter didn't quite get the name and asked: "Where's your uniform?"

"In Brooklyn," said Rube, beginning to get annoyed. "See, here, what do you mean?" the sergeant continued. "No funny business."

"And no funny business with me, either," said Rube. "I'm an American citizen and signed up with the Brooklyn ball club, champions of the National League. Get that in your nut?"

Telling the story, Marquard said: "Wagner and Zimmerman are all the Dutchmen I care to face, without going to Europe to find them."

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